

когда одна и та же работа под разными соусами подавалась в различные издания. Количество опубликованных статей - важный аргумент при переизбрании университетского преподавателя. В то же время тезисы не принято включать в список научных трудов, что, на мой взгляд, абсолютно правильно. Что удивляет и расслабляет в кампусах (campus), так это ощущение безопасности. Полицейских здесь нет, хотя есть университетская охрана, которая однажды сделала мне замечание по поводу распития спиртных напитков в общественном месте: я смотрел телевизор в холле общежития Университета Лавала и тянул пиво из банки. Сказанное особенно справедливо для Канады. В то же время Университет Уэйна, где я работал в течение двух недель, находится в центре Детройта и отделен от так называемого "черного пояса" (зоны компактного проживания афро-американцев) узкой улицей. Так, мне сказали, что по университетской стороне улицы ходить безопасно, а переходить ее и углубляться в "черный пояс" не рекомендуется.

В заключение скажу, что пора сибирской экзотики для наших зарубежных партнеров закончилась. С нами будут сотрудничать, если увидят в этом пользу для себя.

В.П. Вавилов
профессор ТПУ

Now a reader will understand, why to the question, where I would like to live, I gave the name of Canada first. Nevertheless, the USA attract with the dynamics, good payment and... California, which is the country in the country. Among the first Russians I was to have visited Livermore National Laboratory - one of those, where

American nuclear bomb was being created. From afar I saw "the bomb's father" Teller - a walking legend of American confidential science. There I have given an hour's lecture and has received the fee of \$ 500. It is necessary to say that that year my monthly salary amounted to 50 dollars.

To finish with finances, I want to tell that in those years the annual budget of ours Research institute of introscopy amounted to about 150 thousand dollars. In the USA I joked, that two American professors can buy jointly all our institute and force it to work for their profit. Thank God, no less than ten such professors would be required at today.

In my first visit in 1989 the strongest impression from American civil aircraft was the frequency of flights, that more reminded electric trains near Moscow. After passing through the Customs, it took me 15 minutes to change from Moscow flight to the plane to San Diego. Another strong impression was in 1997. A name of a first black seller of ice-cream at Kennedy airport was Vladimir, according to his badge. There are three notorious bureaucracies: Russian, German and Latin (Italian). I tasted its troubles fully, when obtaining visas. Once I wanted to live Italy for Germany to participate in a conference with

In the USA the term " North America " is used, including also Canada. And though the Canadians keep a distance from the powerful neighbor, I have united too these two countries, in which I spent about one year in all, organizing the contracts for TPU, carrying out the own scientific work, and participating in conferences. In any case, the difference in social structure of two countries is rather great. For me Canada is the country of true socialism, as Finland or Sweden. The United States, on the contrary, give a bright sample of a diametrically opposed society, where enterprising people prosper, and outsiders are left to the mercy of fate.

From exotica to business:

notes of a Siberian professor



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return to Italy. The German consulate in Milano has denied me the visa, as my Italian visa was valid only for 4 months, instead of the required 6. My remark about human rights was met with a polite shrug only. Everything finished well. My accepting German professor called the consul and threatened with the complaint Bonn Foreign Office, then the consul found me in Padua at home and asked me to arrive Milano to get my visa. American bureaucracy is most effective, in the sense that inaccessible to a bull is inaccessible also to Jove, without any exceptions, but if the solution is found, then everything is made very quickly. For example, one well-informed person told me, that in former times the American consulate in Moscow considered a communist each soviet person, asking for the visa, and refused everybody in the visa on the basis, that the Communist Party is a subversive organization alongside with gaol-birds and terrorists. The question about a Party membership was not included at all in the questionnaire. Then to the majority of applicants they applied an exception and gave out the visa. I have

got acquainted with it, when I left for the USA from Canada, where I wrote in the questionnaire, that I was not a member of the Communist Party, as I had left it before the putsch of 1991 (but one year earlier I was a member of the TPU Party Committee). Fortunately, the Americans carried out all boundary formalities in the Canadian territory. I was taken off from the flight and sent to the consulate, where they explained me for a long time, how it was bad to deceive the government of the USA, and then they gave me out some other visa. My favorite history of the first visit to USA in 1989 is that it was impossible legally to buy dollars that time, and I safely was going to fly without them. Setting off home for Tomsk airport, I have glanced in a letter box, where has found the letter from my American correspondent with 25 dollars enclosed (she also had written, that she simply could not find a bigger sum at home, as the Americans use credit cards). I have covered a track Tomsk - Moscow - Washington - San Diego and back with 25 dollars, that, according to my familiar Americans, is worthy of note in the Guinness book.

На фото: запуск космического корабля "Колумбия" с мыса Канаверал (расстояние 9 км.)

Photo: the start of "Columbia" from the cape Canaveral (distance about 9 km)

American fairy tale is hotels. For 30 dollars in a California motel you can receive a magnificent double-bedded room, and a swimming pool in the yard. For 200 dollars per day in the fashionable Orlando hotel "Peabody" you may enjoy the piano sitting in the hall being dressed your white tuxedo while observing the parade of performing ducks around a fountain.

The Americans like humor. Everyone without exception the lecturers at conferences insert something ridiculous for relax. I decided to insert a joke into any my speech too. Once it had not worked. In Iowa - American province - for evening of international friendship I had prepared a remarkable American phrase, that in Russia the climate same cold as witches' tits in Montana - American idiom, which I was learned by a friend - provoker. It was a good thing that I got to try this phrase on a familiar girl friend before that evening. She was flattened out and told, that the American women on the evening would be offended and, maybe, they would bring me to trial. The intersexual relations in this state assume grotesque forms. The joint business trip with my Quebec friend Xavier in Montreal is unforgettable. In the evening we settled down in a hotel. Xavier was going to bed, and I wanted to read and to watch TV. I asked him, whether light would disturb him. "No", - said Xavier and put special blinkers on his eyes, similar to opaque glasses. Then I asked him, whether the sound of the TV set would disturb him. In recurrent time with a word "Not" Xavier stopped his ears with special sponges. Other questions I did not ask.

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searches of a grant, and of teacher - in a fear, that the university will not prolong the contract with him. Only in the afternoon of his life the selected ones become tenure professors, i.e. true professors in our understanding: teaching load is small, but an appointment and salary for life. Some of my friends, who went abroad for teaching work, complained, that the good attitude to them during short-term visits, which were paid on the special expense, turned into jealousy and small underhand intrigues, as soon as they began to apply for the real rate of the teachers.

At universities of the USA and Canada a current research is done by Ph. D. students - post-graduate students, as we name their. It is very interesting to watch publications of some scientific groups: one surname - of professor-boss - is present always, and all other authors continuously vary, and Chinese, Indian, Korean etc, the surnames prevail .

At the same time, the leading universities are proud of that the Nobel prize winners work for them quite informally: go lecturing to students, get reprimands from deans and, in general, behave as an ordinary mortal.

It is not a secret, that many Jews, who moved to Israel, then got over in the USA. Some of them

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begin to be engaged in scientific business, which consists in either searching internal American grants (for performance of which they involve Russians), or direct selling the old - made in Russia - scientific works, including legal and illegal export of things, which are called "hardware" in English.

In the USA there are hundreds scientific and technical programs, in which it is possible to submit the projects. The majority of them is highly specialized and is closed for general scientific community, for example, the program of development of hotel business, into which I tried to get by inexperience. From the programs directed of the assistance for the scientist from CIS, the program CRDF is most known, in which I worked in co-operation with Oak-Ridge National Laboratory. Among the internal programs SBIR is the most popular one. It is the program of the help to small business, in which the Russians can work only as the advisers. Now it is clear, that the Americans reluctantly turn a financial flow directly to Russia. For example, a good university contract in the USA amounts to about \$100,000. As fulfillment in Russia nowadays it will cost \$30,000, whereas a clever Russian scientist will execute it a during six-month visit to the USA for 10 thousand dollars. It is the information for reflection to our leaders dreaming of increasing the foreign contracts. So far we lose the scientists.

For 10 years of my contacts with a foreign science, in Russia we have unprecedented progress in the forms of performance of scientific work. I remember, as in my first visit to Canada I piteously solicited to give up me the second-hand computer of antediluvian system XT. I could not use the graphic editors and pasted separate

elements of figures on the diagrams under indulgent smiles of the professor Maldag. But in 1997 I have noticed another tendency. We in Tomsk now use such software, which else were unfamiliar to foreign users, for example, Word 97, therefore Western partners cannot read our articles sent by E-mail. In general, infrastructure of scientific work in Tomsk and in leading Western organizations are the equal in many respects, though we naturally have not yet a super-computer as Cray, business hour of which is equivalent to the cost of average PC.

In soviet times we disputed a lot about automation of research experiments. In Canada and the USA I have seen, how it is made: an experiment lasts only few minutes, but processing of its results - for weeks. Moreover, abroad they appreciate the Russian feature, which at home is defined by saying "Necessity is the mother of invention". The Russians frequently find the elegant decisions, where the Americans hope for power of computers.

As for long-term scientific contacts, it is interesting to compare the USA, Canada and Europe. Americans have more resources, but also there is more arrogance. Actually, they prefer to use Russian scientists as "Negroes". Besides, they hardly get used to the idea that someone can make something better, than Americans. This super-patriotism of the Americans is well known. They suffer inferiority complex, put into their heads by the Japanese. In this sense the Canadians are similar to Europeans: with them it is easier to keep up long-term contacts. Moreover, the above-mentioned professor Maldag and me are in European Working Group on IR

Thermography, where there is no American. There is a sort of competition here between Europe and America. One more problem with the Americans is, that they do not like to begin work, which will not bring benefit within a year (it, concerns, of course, rather industrial firms, than universities). As to universities, there is an other unexpected problem. The "pure" university professors in the USA are engaged in research works and poorly perceive our ideology of commercialization, for example, small-series production. Pilot production at universities is rather weak, and in this sense it is frequently more advantageous for our Institute of introscopy to cooperate with industrial firms on R&D, i.e. researches and development. So, after performance of the contract for the University of Iowa, I finishly applied directly to their scientific sponsor - the superfirm United Technologies, which had offered me to prolong cooperation directly with it. Students in the USA and Canada are no genius, but are assiduous and conscientious. It is very convenient to have them as the technicians executors. Once at Laval University in Quebec I stayed in the laboratory with two students till the end of experiment at 3AM. The guards locked us from the outside, and it was necessary to call in a special service, which helped us out.

With the scientific papers the same facade is possible, as in our old good time. I repeatedly encountered situations, when the same work in different wrappers was sent in the various editions. The number of papers is the important argument for re-election of the university teacher. At the same time, it is not there the practice to list theses in one's

papers, that is quite right, in my view.

It is the feeling of safety that surprises and relaxes in campuses. There are no policemen here, though there is a university who guard, once has made to me the remark concerning drinking in a public place: I watched TV in a hostel hall of Laval university and nursed beer from a can. The thing is especially true for Canada. Meanwhile, the Wane University, where I was working for two weeks, is situated in center of Detroit and is separated from so-called "Black Belt" (zone of compact residing of the Afro-Americans) by a narrow street. So, I was told, that I could walk without safety on the university side of a street, but it was not recommended to cross the street and to go deeper into "a Black Belt". In conclusion I want to say, that the period of Siberian exotic for our foreign partners has finished. They will cooperate with us, if they find it benefical.

V.P. Vavilov,

Professor of TPU

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